

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 L-02 H-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 CU-02 VO-03 SCA-01 /050 W

----- 074366

R 271001Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4331

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0994

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, SCUL, PFOR, CH, TW

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF ROC GROUPS TO US

REF: A) STATE 033103; B) STATE 278822 OF DEC 74; C)

TAIPEI 4107 OF JUNE 1974 (EXDIS)

1. IN SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS WITH VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS YANG HSI-KUN; DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, MOFA KUAN YUNG; AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL RELATIONS; MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (MOED) PAO YOU-YU, EMBOFFS EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE SHORT NOTICE GIVEN THE EMBASSY FOR RECENT PRIVATE GROUPS TRAVELING TO US, WARNING THEM ONCE AGAIN THAT SUCH GROUPS MAY BE DELAYED IN THE FUTURE IF ADEQUATE NOTICE IS NOT GIVEN. ALL OFFICIALS INDICATED THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEM AND WE BELIEVE THAT GROC IS MAKING A SINCERE EFFORT TO COOPERATE.

2. THESE OFFICIAL S POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THE THREE GROUPS LISTDD REF A -- CHILDREN'S ORCHESTRA, FEMALE CHORUS, AND ACUPUNCTURISTS -- WERE ALL PRIVATELY SPONSORED, THUS MAKING IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR GROC TO GIVE MUCH ADVANCE WARNING. IN FACT, OUR CABLE RE CHILDREN'S SYMPHONY WAS SENT BEFORE GROC HAD APPROVED TRAVEL AND UNTIL LAST MINUTE THERE WAS QUESTION WHETHER  
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GROUP WOULD BE PERMITTED TO GO BECAUSE MOED COULD NOT

CONFIRM BONA FIDES OF INVITATION.

3. IN THE CASE OF THE CHORUS, MOED OFFICIAL FRANKLY SAID THEY WERE NOT OF TRUE PROFESSIONAL QUALITY AND WERE MORE INTERESTED IN TRAVELING FOR THEIR OWN ENJOYMENT. SIMILARLY, HE SUGGESTED THAT ACUPUNCTURISTS SEEMED MORE BENT ON TRAVEL THAN PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT AND SAID THAT GROUP ONLY CAME TO MOED ATTENTION BECAUSE THREE PROFESSORS INVOLVED PLANNED TO PERSENT PAPERS IN US.

4. IN SUME, BELIEVE THAT GROC IS NOW CLEARLY PUT ON NOTICE WITH RESPECT TO CONCERNS EXPRESSED PARA 2 REF A. HOWEVER, EMBASSY HOPES DEPARTMENT WILL RECOGNIZE PROBLEM FACED BY GROC PARTICULARLY AS TO PRIVATE GROUPS. GRADUAL LOOSENING OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND WIDENING PROSPERITY IN TAIWAN IN RECENT YEARS HAS GENERATED MORE FOREIGN TRAVEL AND MONITORING ALL THESE GROUPS IS DIFFICULT TASK HERE AS ELSEWHERE.

5. EMBASSY HOPES DEPARTMENT WILL KEEP US INFORMED OF LATEST AVAILABLE DATES FOR PRC GROUP TRAVEL TO US (REF B). IF WE CAN PASS SUCH INFORMATION TO GROC, IT WILL BE AN APPROPRIATE TO UNDERLINE OUR CONCERN AND TO HELP AVOID POSSIBLE SCHEDULING DELAYS (REF C)

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## Message Attributes

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